

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-4. (CANCELLED)

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A tape for bridging gaps between building modules of modular buildings, the tape including: to bridge a gap between adjacent building modules and to sealably engage adjacent generally coextensive edge strips of roof membranes covering the modules, the tape comprising:

a. a tacky an-elastomeric adhesive layer having a tacky lower surface and an oppositely-facing opposing upper surface; and

b. a porous reinforcing layer embedded within the adhesive layer between the lower and upper surfaces thereof; and

wherein the tape is configured to bridge a gap of four inches between building modules without sagging more than 0.5 inches.

~~a release strip temporarily adhered to and covering the tacky lower surface of the adhesive layer, the release strip being removable from the adhesive layer to permit positioning of the tape over the gap between the building modules with the adhesive layer overlapping and adhered to the edge strips of the roof membranes;~~

~~the tape being sufficiently rigid transversely to form a self supporting bridge resistant to detrimental sagging into the gap between the building modules when positioned over the gap with the adhesive layer adhered to the edge strips of the roof membranes.~~

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The tape ~~according to~~ of claim 5, ~~characterized by the~~ porous wherein the reinforcing layer includes a comprising porous scrim material having a scrim width at least as great as the width of the gap. embedded within the adhesive layer.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The tape ~~according to~~ of claim 6, ~~characterized by wherein~~ the scrim material includes comprising an elongate strip of generally flat material having a multiplicity of interstices penetrated by, with the adhesive layer, ~~extending through said interstices between said lower and upper surfaces.~~
8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The tape ~~according to~~ of claim 7, ~~characterized by wherein~~ the scrim material being is selected from ~~the a~~ group consisting of an absorbent or woven cloth, porous fiberglass fabric, wire or plastic screen mesh, and a perforated plastic or metal strip, ~~and other permeable or porous material through which a non-solid may penetrate or be forced.~~
9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The tape ~~according to claim 6, characterized as being of claim 5 wherein the tape is configured to be~~ sufficiently flexible longitudinally to permit its being rolled into a roll of tape, for storage, shipment and handling, and unrolled for application and use.
10. (CANCELLED)
11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The tape ~~according to claim 6, characterized by said of claim 5 wherein the~~ adhesive layer comprising includes at least one of the materials selected from ~~the a~~ group consisting of EPDM, EPR, TPO, PVC, Neoprene, Butyl, Polyisobutylene, Halogenated Butyl, Halogenated Polyisobutylene, Isobutylene, reclaimed Butyl, natural rubber, and Polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS).
12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The tape ~~according to~~ of claim 11, ~~characterized by wherein~~ the adhesive layer comprising includes a blend consisting primarily of uncured Butyl mixed with other and semi-cured polymers, ~~to provide the adhesive layer in an initial semi-cured condition.~~

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The tape ~~according to claim 6, characterized by of claim 5 wherein the adhesive layer having with the reinforcing layer embedded therein has a thickness of at least substantially between approximately 0.040 to and 0.060 inches, inch with the reinforcing scrim embedded therein.~~
14. (CANCELLED)
15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The tape ~~according to claim 6, characterized by of claim 5 wherein the adhesive layer comprising includes~~ cross-linked polymers.
16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The tape ~~according to~~ of claim 5 further ~~comprising including~~ a protective outer layer permanently adhered to the upper surface of the adhesive layer.
17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The tape ~~according to claim 16, characterized as provided to bridge the gap between building modules having roof membranes of a specified base compound; and further characterized by of claim 16 wherein the protective outer layer is; being~~
- a. non-adhesive; ~~and~~ ,
 - b. ~~of a thickness of at least substantially between approximately 0.030 to 0.040 and 0.060 inches thick, inch, and formed of a base compound the same or similar to the specified base compound of the roof membranes.~~

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A tape ~~provided to bridge a specified maximum for bridging a gap having a gap width~~ between adjacent building modules, ~~and to sealably engage adjacent generally coextensive edge strips of roof membranes covering the modules, the tape comprising: the tape including:~~

a. an elastomeric adhesive layer having:

1. an adhesive layer width; and

2. a tacky lower surface and an ~~oppositely-facing~~ opposing tacky upper surface; ~~the adhesive layer being substantially equal in width to the specified maximum gap width plus the aggregate widths of the coextensive edge strips of the roof membranes;~~

b. a porous reinforcing material layer embedded in entirely within the adhesive layer between the lower surface and the upper surface thereof, the reinforcing layer material ~~comprising~~ serim material having:

1. a multiplicity of interstices; and therein, the reinforcing material being of

2. a reinforcing layer width ~~of at least approximately the specified maximum having a magnitude at least substantially between the~~ gap width and ~~less than the width of the adhesive layer~~ width;

wherein the adhesive layer; extending

I. extends through said the interstices of the reinforcing serim layer between said the lower and upper surfaces thereof; and

II. has a thickness at least substantially between 0.040 and 0.060 inches.

~~a release strip temporarily adhered to the lower surface of the adhesive layer, the release strip being removable from the lower surface to permit positioning of the adhesive layer with the reinforcing material embedded therein lengthwise over the gap between the building modules with the tacky lower surface overlapping and sealingly adhering to the coextensive edge strips of the roof membranes;~~

~~the adhesive layer with the reinforcing material embedded therein having a thickness of between approximately 0.040 to 0.060 inch and being sufficiently rigid transversely to form a self-supporting bridge resistant to detrimental sagging into the gap between the building modules when positioned over the gap with the tacky lower surface adhered to the coextensive~~

~~edge-strips of the roof membranes;~~

~~the adhesive layer with the reinforcing material embedded therein further being sufficiently flexible transversely to permit its selective deformation to generally conform to the angle between non-coplanar roof sections of building modules and adhesion of the tacky lower surface to the coextensive edge strips of roof membranes covering such roof sections, and~~

~~the adhesive layer with the reinforcing material embedded therein further being sufficiently flexible longitudinally to be rolled for storage, shipment and handling, and unrolled for application over the gap between the building modules.~~

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The tape ~~according to~~ of claim 18 wherein; characterized by

a. the adhesive layer ~~comprising~~ includes at least one of the materials selected from ~~the a~~ group consisting of EPDM, EPR, TPO, PVC, Neoprene, Butyl, Polyisobutylene, Halogenated Butyl, Halogenated Polyisobutylene, Isobutylene, reclaimed Butyl, natural rubber and Polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS); and ~~further characterized by~~

b. ~~the scrim material being selected from the~~ the reinforcing layer includes at least one of the materials selected from a group consisting of an absorbent or woven cloth, porous fiberglass fabric, wire or plastic screen mesh, and perforated plastic or metal strip, ~~and other permeable or porous material through which a non-solid may penetrate or be forced.~~

20. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The tape ~~according to~~ of claim 18, characterized by further ~~comprising~~ including a protective outer layer permanently adhered to and covering the tacky upper surface of the adhesive layer, the protective outer layer being non-adhesive and having a thickness ~~of at least substantially~~ between ~~approximately 0.030 to 0.040 and 0.060 inches.~~ inches.

21. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The tape ~~according to claim 18,~~ characterized by of claim 20 wherein the adhesive layer ~~comprising~~ includes cross-linked polymers.

22. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A roof system for a building including adjacent building modules with roof sections having a gap therebetween, the roof system including; comprising;
- a. roof membranes covering the roof sections and providing coextensive spaced edge strips along the gap; and
 - b. a tape positioned over the gap, the tape including; comprising;
 - 1. an elastomeric adhesive layer having a tacky upper surface and an oppositely facing tacky lower surface sealably adhered to the spaced edge strips of the roof membranes; and
 - 2. a porous reinforcing layer embedded entirely within the adhesive layer; and
 - 3. a protective outer layer adhered to the upper surface of the adhesive layer;
- wherein the tape is configured to bridge gaps between adjacent building modules without substantial sagging between the roof sections.
- ~~the tape and protective outer layer cooperatively establishing a self-supporting bridge resistant to detrimental sagging into the gap between the roof sections.~~
23. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The roof system ~~according to~~ of claim 22, ~~characterized by wherein:~~
- a. the reinforcing layer ~~comprising~~ includes scrim material ~~embedded within the adhesive layer, the scrim material having a multiplicity of interstices therethrough,~~ and ;
 - b. the adhesive layer at least substantially extending extends through said the interstices of the reinforcing layer, ~~between said lower and upper tacky surfaces.~~

24. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The roof system ~~according to~~ of claim 23 ~~wherein:~~
- ~~a. the reinforcing layer has a width~~ a. the reinforcing layer has a width ~~, characterized by the width of the adhesive layer being substantially equal to the width of the gap between the adjacent roof sections plus the aggregate width of the coextensive edge strips of the membranes; and by the width of the scrim being at least approximately~~ substantially ~~equal to the width of the gap between the roof sections, and~~ equal to the width of the gap between the roof sections, and;
 - ~~b. the adhesive layer has a width at least substantially equal to or greater than the width of the reinforcing layer.~~ b. the adhesive layer has a width at least substantially equal to or greater than the width of the reinforcing layer.
25. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~A method of using the~~ The roof system according to ~~of~~ claim 23 ~~, characterized by including the steps of:~~
- ~~a. (i)~~ a. (i) providing the tape in a roll with the reinforcing ~~serim~~ layer embedded in the adhesive layer and with a release strip temporarily adhered to one of the tacky surfaces of the adhesive layer,
 - ~~b. (ii)~~ b. (ii) unrolling the tape and removing the release strip from said one tacky surface,
 - ~~c. (iii)~~ c. (iii) positioning the tape lengthwise over the gap, and
 - ~~d. (iv)~~ d. (iv) adhering the lower tacky surface of the adhesive layer to the spaced edge strips of the roof membranes.
- 26-27. (CANCELLED)
28. (NEW) The tape of claim 18 wherein the reinforcing layer is configured to be:
- a. sufficiently rigid such that the tape bridges a gap of four inches between building modules without sagging more than 0.5 inches; and
 - b. sufficiently flexible such that the tape can be rolled into a roll of tape.

29. **(NEW)** A tape for bridging a gap between building modules,
- a. the tape including:
 1. a tacky adhesive layer having an upper surface and an opposing lower surface;
 2. a reinforcing layer embedded within the adhesive layer and confined between the upper and lower surfaces thereof; and
 3. a protective outer layer permanently adhered to the upper surface of the adhesive layer;
 - b. wherein the tape is configured to bridge a gap between building modules without sagging more than half an inch.
30. **(NEW)** The tape of claim 29 wherein:
- a. each of the adhesive layer and the reinforcing layer has a thickness no greater than 0.06 inches, and
 - b. the reinforcing layer:
 1. includes a screen-like mesh having apertures formed therein; and
 2. has a width that is no greater than the width of the adhesive layer.
31. **(NEW)** The tape of claim 30 wherein the reinforcing layer includes a series of elongated fibers having a long axis extending transversely within the adhesive layer, the elongated fibers being spaced from each other along the length of the tape.